

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 2418.67US01

Taku Imajo et al.

Application No.: Unknown

Filed: *Of Even Date*

For: RETRACTABLE SEATS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application. No certification or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas J. Christensen
Registration No. 35,480

Customer No. 24113
Patterson, Thunte, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.
4800 IDS Center, 80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100
Telephone: (612) 349-3001

Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV320340956US. Date of Deposit: February 25, 2004. I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Jeanne Truman
Name of Person Making Deposit

Jeanne Truman
Signature

| | | | | | |
|--|---|----|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | Unknown |
| | | | | Filing Date | <i>Of Even Date</i> |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Taku Imajo |
| | | | | Art Unit | Unknown |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 2418.67US01 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| EXAMINER INITIAL* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| | | US-4,957,321 | 09/18/1990 | Martin et al. |
| | | US-5,269,581 | 12/14/1993 | Odagaki et al. |
| | | US-5,890,758 | 04/06/1999 | Pone et al. |
| | | US-6,234,553 B1 | 05/22/2001 | Eschelbach et al. |
| | | US-6,435,589 B2 | 08/20/2002 | Shimizu et al. |
| | | US-6,601,900 B1 | 08/05/2003 | Seibold |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |
| | | US- | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| EXAMINER INITIAL* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP 2001-328476 | 11/27/2001 | Shinoda | X (abstract) |
| | | JP 2002-316567 | 10/29/2002 | Suwa | X (abstract) |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| EXAMINER SIGNATURE | DATE CONSIDERED |
|-----------------------|--------------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.